

From: Ed Sackley
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/31/01 8:18pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement - Public Comments

Dear Federal Official:

My first experience with a computer was as a high school student in 1969 . . . working at a hospital that used punch cards as input to a primitive "computerized" accounting system. In the years that followed, I was always around computers . . . even serving as an operator for a University of Illinois mainframe operated in support of Department of Defense research in the early to mid-70s. I've had a PC on my desk since 1982.

Why the history? It wasn't until Microsoft INSPIRED and ENABLED the necessary economy of scale in the personal computer business that computer applications and hardware became possible for every American. In the 80s, we all struggled with applications that didn't work together and companies that were unwilling or unable to stand behind their products. Our nation, our economy and all of our citizens have benefited from Microsoft's innovation and leadership. By most accounts, the company did abuse some of its power and market position and for that they have paid a price. It is now time to close this chapter and move ahead.

I urge you to support the Tunney Act and turn aside those remaining special interest groups who would have you derail the settlement. Microsoft will be under more scrutiny in the future than they have ever experienced in the past. They are a fine company that has played a significant role in America's technological dominance for over 20 years. Please allow them to devote all of their resources to improving our lives and our world.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

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